

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An electric-component holding apparatus including a component holder which holds an electric component and includes an engaging portion, a holder-holding member to which the component holder is detachably attached, a lock member which consists of a substantially rigid body, and which is supported by the holder-holding member such that the lock member is movable relative to the holder-holding member, and is engaged with the engaging portion of the component holder to lock the component holder to the holder-holding member, and a locked-state maintaining device which includes an operable member and an elastic member and which maintains, owing to an elastic force of the elastic member, a locked state in which the lock member is engaged with the engaging portion of the component holder. The locked-state maintaining device does not allow, when a force is exerted to the component holder in a direction to cause the component holder to move away from the holder-holding member, the force to be exerted to the lock member in a direction to increase an amount of elastic deformation of the elastic member, and allows, when an operating force is applied to the operable member in the direction to increase the amount of elastic deformation of the elastic member, the lock member to be disengaged from the engaging portion of the component holder and unlocked from the locked state.